Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. (currently amended) A method for providing driver-independent, printer-independent page manipulation options in a printing system, said method comprising:

    creating a spool data file;

    creating a Page-Independent Spool File (PISF) index file from said spool data file;

    allowing <u>user</u> manipulation of said PISF index file to effect document page <u>format</u> manipulation options; and

    accessing said PISF index file to execute a print job.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said spool data file is a Microsoft Windows Job Description File.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said manipulation comprises changing a print job to a format selected from the group consisting of booklet, Nup, reverse order, duplex, tablet, and PrintClub.

4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file comprises print job commands, page commands and page data.

5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file provides access to at least one Enhanced Metafile (EMF) file.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file provides access to at least one raw format file.

7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said manipulation of said PISF index file comprises changing the order of document pages.

8. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said manipulation of said PISF index file comprises changing the scale and placement of document pages.

9. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said manipulation of said PISF index file comprises changing collation options.

10. (currently amended) A method for providing document formatting options in a printing system, said method comprising:

creating a Page-Independent Spool File (PISF) index file;

manipulating said PISF index file to effect document formatting options by user input; and

accessing said manipulated PISF index file to execute a print job.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 12 10 wherein said creating, said manipulating and said accessing are accomplished with a print processor.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 12 10 wherein said creating, said manipulating and said accessing are accomplished through a spooler.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 12 10 wherein said creating, said manipulating and said accessing are accomplished through a print assistant between a driver and a printer.

14. (currently amended) A method for adding document formatting capability to a printing system, said method comprising:

initiating a print job for a document;

creating a PISF index file;

modifying said PISF index file through user input, from said print processor, ~~to make said print job conform to said user input~~; and

accessing said PISF index file, from said print processor, to obtain document formatting information for printing.

15. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein said PISF index file is produced by a print processor.

16. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein said PISF index file is produced by a spooler.

17. (original)The method of claim 14 wherein said PISF index file is produced by a print system component in a print system between a driver and a printer.

18. (original)A printing system with driver-independent, printer-independent document

formatting, said system comprising:

    a print processor comprising:

        an indexer for creating a page-independent index file;

        a modifier for modifying said index file to effect document formatting

options; and

        a reader for accessing said manipulated index file to execute a modified

print job.

19. (original) A computer-readable medium comprising instructions for driver-independent,

printer-independent document formatting, said instructions comprising the acts of:

        creating a page-independent index file;

        manipulating said index file to effect document formatting options; and

        accessing said manipulated index file to execute a print job.

20. (currently amended) A computer data signal embodied in an computer-readable

electronic transmission, said signal having the function of driver-independent, printer-

independent document formatting, said signal comprising instructions for:

creating a page-independent index file;

manipulating said index file to effect document formatting options; and

accessing said manipulated index file to execute a print job.